

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 and 26-29 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 25 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, claims 1, 10 and 15 are amended, and new claims 26-29 are added.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Office Action's indication that claims 3, 4, 9, 14, 19, 23, and 24 are allowable. New independent claim 29 includes features from previous claim 1 and 3, and therefore should also be allowable.

The Office Action rejects claim 25 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. By this Amendment, claim 25 is canceled. Thus, the rejection is moot.

The Office Action rejects claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) by U.S. Patent 5,600,708 to Meche et al. (hereafter Meche). The Office Action also rejects claims 1, 2, 5-8, 10-13, 15-18, 20-22 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Meche in view of U.S. Patent 5,966,081 to Chesnutt. The rejections are respectfully traversed.

As set forth in the previous response, Meche discloses to lock a user identify module (UIM) to the mobile terminal (MT) to prevent reprogramming the mobile terminal with a new UIM. See, for example, Meche's column 3, lines 5-9. Locking the UIM to the mobile terminal does not prevent use of the mobile terminal but only prevents reprogramming the phone or reuse of the UIM as disclosed at column 3, lines 5-22.

Independent claim 1 recites that the phone-locked state restricting users from making calls from the terminal. Meche does not teach or suggest these features as Meche's phone may

still allow calls to be made while the UIM is locked into the unit. Chesnutt does not teach or suggest these features of independent claim 1 missing from Meche. Accordingly, independent claim 1 defines patentable subject matter.

Each of independent claims 10 and 15 define patentable subject matter for at least similar reasons as claim 1. That is, independent claim 10 recites enabling a variable value for phone-locking where the phone-locking restricting users from making calls from the terminal. Independent claim 15 recites enabling a variable value for phone-locking where the phone-locking restricting users from making calls from the terminal. The applied references do not teach or suggest these features.

Claims 2-9 and 20-25 depend from claim 1, claims 11-14 depend from claim 10, and claims 16-19 depend from claim 15 and therefore define patentable subject matter at least for this reasons. In addition, the dependent claims also recite features that further and independently distinguish over the applied references.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney, **David C. Oren**, at the telephone number listed below.

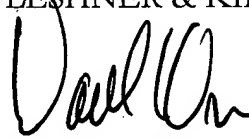
Serial No. 09/738,984
Reply to Office Action of March 19, 2004

Docket No. P-164

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and

- please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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